REMARKS

In view of the preceding amendments and the comments which follow, and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.111, amendment and reconsideration of the Office Action dated December 14, 2005, is respectfully requested by Applicant.

Summary

Claims 1-20 stand rejected.

Claim 1 has been amended. No new matter is added as a result of this response.

Claims 8-20 have been canceled.

Claims 1-7 are pending following entry of the present amendment and remarks.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1-4 and 8-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nelson (U.S. Patent No. 5,710,605) in view of Kemink (U.S. Patent No. 6,563,430). Claims 5-6 and 12-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nelson in view of Kemink and further in view of Kayashima (U.S. Patent No. 5,488,427). Claims 7 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nelson in view of Kemink and further in view of Klein (U.S. Patent No. 6,859,197). Claims 15-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nelson in view of Kemink and further in view of Baker (U.S. Patent No. 6,597,374).

Applicant has amended Claim 1 to incorporate Claims 8 and 15. Applicant submits that Claims 1-7 are pending and are allowable over the cited art.

Claim 1 recites a remote control system comprising a rotational controller that is controlled by a CPU such that the rotational controller provides a unique operational feel corresponding to the device being controlled. The rotational controller is controlled by a CPU. The CPU provides an operational feel to the controller based on which device is selected. This operational feel, in other words is the sensation that the user feels while operating the controller. The

operational feel of the rotational controller allows the user to easily control the device, for example, allowing emulation of the controller selected.

Applicant agrees with the Examiner that Nelson does not teach a rotational controller that is controlled by a CPU. Nor does Nelson teach that the rotational controller provides a unique operational feel corresponding to the device being controlled.

Further, Kemink does not use or suggest using a CPU to provide an operational feel to a remote controller. More specifically, Kemink discloses using a communicator to query an information source for control information used to provide data to the display corresponding to the device selected. The retrieval of control information from a information source in Kemink is thus different than using a CPU to provide information to the controller as recited in Claim 1. Further, Kemink provides data to the monitor, rather than providing an operational feel to the controller as recited in Claim 1.

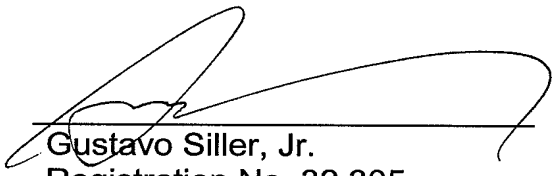
Nor does Baker teach using a CPU to provide an operational feel to a remote control. Rather, Baker uses a CPU to provide hierarchical menus to the remote control unit. In Baker, the CPU uses stored information to display hierarchical menus corresponding to the device selected on the display. Thus, Baker does not provide an operational feel to a remote controller as recited in Claim 1.

Thus, Claim 1, as well as dependent claims 2-7 are allowable over the cited art.

Conclusion

In view of the amendments and arguments above, Applicant respectfully submits that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance. If for any reason the Examiner is unable to allow the application in the next Office Action and believes that a telephone interview would be helpful to resolve any remaining issues, he is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



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